The Central Government maintains a close and continuous watch on naxalite activities. Apart from institutional mechanisms for review, periodic visits to the various States are also undertaken and detailed consultations with the State Government authorities are held about various developments and the steps required to check and control naxalite activities.

Maoists acquiring air borne capabilities in Orissa and Jharkhand

934. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as per reports, the Maoists are not only equipped with sophisticated weapons and communication system, but also with airborne capabilities, especially in Orissa and Jharkhand regions;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action plan of the Centre to effectively control this menace?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (c) As per information available, Maoists have sophisticated weapons and communication system; there are no reports to suggest that they have airborne capabilities in Orissa and Jharkhand.

The concerned State Governments undertake necessary action in respect of naxalite activities. The Central Government supplements their efforts and resources by various measures, which include deployment of Central paramilitary forces to assist the State police forces, sanctioning of India Reserve battalions to the States, assistance for strengthening of the State police and intelligence agencies, reimbursement of security-related expenditure, assistance in training of State police forces, sharing of intelligence, bringing about inter-State coordination and assistance in development works.

The Central Government maintains close and continuous watch on the situation, including detailed consultations with the State Government authorities about various developments and the steps required to check and control naxalite activities.

Taking steps as appropriate and necessary, having regard to the situation obtaining, is a continuous process.

Relaxing working visa norms for Chinese

935. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has relaxed working visa norms for Chinese citizens in the recent past to work with private agencies particularly in the field of oil exploration;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that security agencies had also expressed concerns over issuance of visa to such large number of Chinese nationals to work in private oil exploration company; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and how many Chinese nationals have been given working visas to work with private companies, with the details of companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) Grant of visa to Chinese citizens is governed by the Memorandum of Understanding signed between the Govt. of Republic of India and the Govt. of Peoples Republic of China on 23rd June, 2003. As per this Agreement, Chinese nationals are granted multiple entry business visa for six months wherein each stay should not exceed 90 days or else a single entry visa for 60 days. Similarly employment visa is granted for 90 days with single entry after prior reference to the Ministry of Home Affairs.

(c) and (d) Security agencies have advised that visa to Chinese nationals should be granted strictly in terms of the MOU signed between India and China and other general guidelines prescribed by the Govt As per information available the Indian Mission in Beijing has since June, 2006, issued 2046 employment visas to the Chinese nationals, primarily for infrastructure related projects.

Help to NE militants by ISI and Bangladesh intelligence agencies

936. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan's Inter Service Intelligence (ISI) is working with Bangladesh's intelligence agencies to facilitate co-operation between northeast militant group like ULFA and other jihadist outfits in the South Asian regions besides Tamil rebel in Lanka according to US intelligence service;

(b) whether strong nexus between ISI and Bangladesh intelligence agencies have been reported and these agencies are working clandestinely in Bangladesh to bring all the northeast-based insurgent outfits and political elements under one umbrella;

(c) if so, whether Government has considered any action in this regard; and

(d) whether China has also assessed Pakistan being a terrorist State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) Available inputs suggest the use of Bangladeshi soil for anti-India activities by hostile intelligence agencies.

(c) Security concerns are taken up with the Bangladeshi authorities through the mechanism set up for the purpose. At the domestic level, the Government has been pursuing a well coordinated and multi-pronged approach to tackle the activities of ISI by strengthening the border management to check illegal cross border activities, gearing up the intelligence machinery, close interaction and coordination between different agencies of the Centre and State Governments for neutralizing plan of militants and ISI/anti-national elements, modernization and up-gradation of police and security forces with advance sophisticated weapons and communications system.

(d) No such report has come to the notice of the Government.

International conference on cyber crimes

937. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether an 'International conference on cyber crime' was held in New Delhi in the month of September, 2007 where various international organisations like United Nations Drug Control Programme (UNODC) United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI) and other organizations participated in the conference and discussed effective ways to deal with cyber crimes and proposed setting up of public private partnership to catch on line criminals;